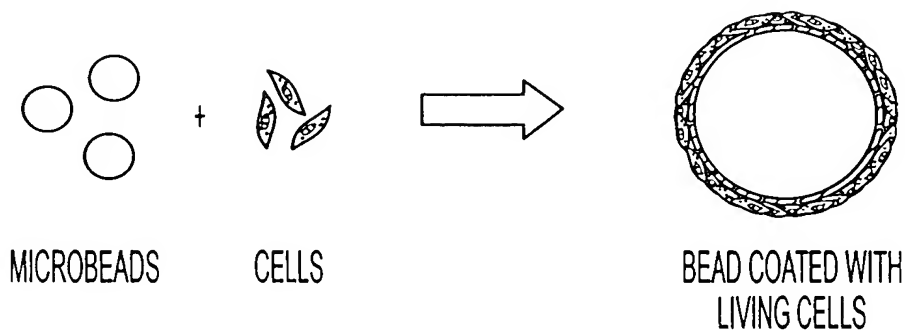


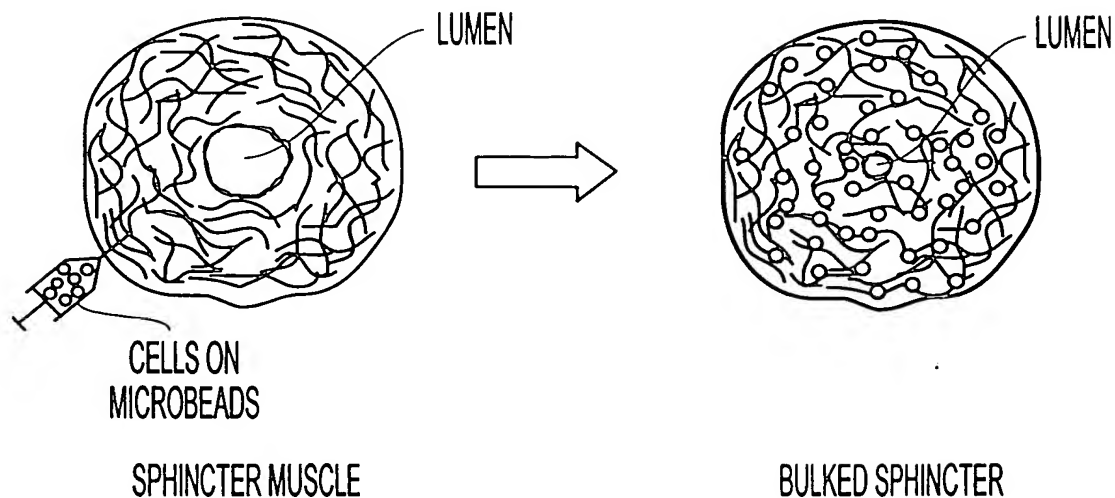
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SCHEMATIC REPRESENTATION OF SPHINCTER BULKING

1. COATING OF MICROBEADS SURFACE WITH CELL IN VITRO



2. SPHINCTER BULKING



BEADS ARE FIRST COATED WITH CELLS IN VITRO.

COATED BEADS ARE THEN INJECTED IN PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITIONS INSIDE THE SPHINCTER. THE SPHINCTER VOLUME INCREASES PROPORTIONALLY TO THE AMOUNT OF INJECTED BEADS AND THE LUMEN SIZE DECREASES. BEADS ARE PROGRESSIVELY AND NON-REVERSIBLY INTEGRATED WITHIN THE MUSCLES.

Fig. 1